

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Withdrawn) The use of an aspartate copolymer comprising (a) aspartate residues, which may be substituted at the side chain carboxyl, and at least one type of residue selected from (b) asparagine residues, which may be substituted at the side chain nitrogen, and (c) succinimide residues, and characterized by (i) a molecular weight greater than 5000 Daltons, or (ii) a substantially linear morphology and a molecular weight greater than 600 Daltons, or (iii) water solubility and a molecular weight greater than 2000 Daltons, or any combination thereof, in the production of an additive for a personal care product selected from a shampoo, a conditioner, or a personal care lotion.

31. (Withdrawn) The use of claim 30, wherein the aspartate copolymer has a molecular weight in the range of about 60,000-75,000 Daltons.

32. (Previously presented) A personal care product selected from a shampoo, conditioner or personal care lotion, comprising a thickening agent consisting of an aspartate copolymer wherein said aspartate copolymer comprises (a) aspartate residues, which may be substituted at the side chain carboxyl, and at least one type of residue selected from (b) asparagine residues, which may be substituted at the side chain nitrogen, and (c) succinimide residues, and is characterized by

- (i) a molecular weight greater than 5000 Daltons, or
- (ii) a substantially linear morphology and a molecular weight greater than 600 Daltons,

or

- (iii) water solubility and a molecular weight greater than 2000 Daltons, or any combination thereof.

33. (Currently Amended) The personal care product of claim 332, wherein the aspartate copolymer has a molecular weight in the range of about 60,000-75,000 Daltons.

34. (Cancelled)

If in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 838-4403.

Respectfully submitted,

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